

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Naoko HAMAMURA *et al.*
Title: IMAGE FORMING APPARATUS AND IMAGE FORMING METHOD
Appl. No.: Not yet assigned
Filing Date: August 18, 2000
Examiner: Not yet assigned
Art Unit: Not yet assigned



INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.56 and 37 C.F.R. § 1.97

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Submitted herewith on a modified Form PTO-1449 is a listing of documents known to applicants in order to comply with applicants' duty of disclosure pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.56. A copy of each of the listed documents is being submitted to comply with the provisions of 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97-1.98.

The submission herewith of any document is not intended as an admission either that such document constitutes competent prior art against the claims of the present application or that such document is considered to be material to patentability as defined in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(b). Applicants do not waive the right to take appropriate action to antedate any document that does not constitute a statutory bar and that is determined to be a prima facie prior art reference against the claims of the present application, or to otherwise remove such a document as a competent reference.

TIMING OF THE DISCLOSURE

This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed under the provisions of 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b) within three months of the filing date of the application. No fee is due. However, in the event that the Patent Office determines that a fee is due for the filing of this document, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any such fee to Deposit Account No. 19-0741.



RELEVANCE OF THE DOCUMENTS

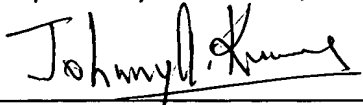
Document A1 discloses a zooming process for a binary image. An English translation of document A1 is not readily available; however, the absence of such translation does not relieve the PTO from its duty to consider the submitted document (37 C.F.R. § 1.98 and M.P.E.P. § 609). An English language abstract is provided for documents A1.

Applicants respectfully request that any listed document be considered by the Examiner and be made of record in the present application and that an initialed copy of Form PTO-1449 be returned in accordance with M.P.E.P. § 609.

8/18/2000

Date

Respectfully submitted,



Johnny A. Kumar
Reg. No. 34,649

FOLEY & LARDNER
3000 K Street, N.W., Suite 500
P.O. Box 25696
Washington, DC 20007-8696
Tel: (202) 672-5300